

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Howard W. Harner, Jr.  
32 Woodland Dr.  
Staunton, VA 24401

August 2, 1999

Dear Mr. Harner:

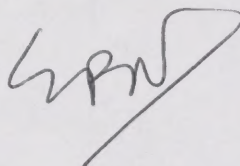
Your July 22, 1999 mailing of the new Virginia currency data is nothing short of spectacular!

The new pattern piece, the new denominations, the new data are overwhelming and just what you modestly promised to find. I look forward to the balance of the material.

I respect your persistence as you must have read endless pages to find these gems, I am sure you derived great satisfaction from it.

I have just returned from a vacation and that delayed my response. I am glad you called me to check up on the arrival of the package. Keep up the great work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'EPN' with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Eric P. Newman



Misc reel 256, Library of Virginia. "Norton Cash Ledger, Oct 1768 → July 1781.

# London August 1773 Cash

60.1	25	By John Barrett Breachemaker paid him on Acc <sup>t</sup>	9
295.1	26	By Treasurer of Virginia paid R <sup>t</sup> V <sup>t</sup> deat to Richard Corbin	1200
58.1		By John Blakesly Trunkmaker paid him on Acc <sup>t</sup>	8 17
108.1	28	By Tradesmen for Ships paid Boddy & Mulone junk for Virginia	6 10
			7059 5 4

## September 1773

83.1	1	By John North Turner paid him on Acc <sup>t</sup>	20 6 2
80.1	2	By Middleton & Sons Staymakers paid them on Acc <sup>t</sup>	27 15
176.1		By Robert Prentiss paid his Bro <sup>r</sup> for two mourning rings	12 12
67.1	3	By Robert Field Cardmaker paid him on Acc <sup>t</sup>	5 1
71.1	7	By Archibald Dick paid his order to Edward Harford jun <sup>r</sup>	6 16 8
82.1	8	By Newdick & Co <sup>s</sup> Colourmen paid them on Acc <sup>t</sup>	40 1 3
30.1	10	By Goods Co <sup>t</sup> with ready money paid Henry Ashby Engraver	21 10 6
295.1		By Treasurer of Virg <sup>t</sup> J <sup>r</sup> Backhouse's Deat to George Taylor for M <sup>t</sup> Black's passage	21
73.1		By John Williamson paid himself	95
67.1	11	By Clay, Agutter & Co <sup>s</sup> Ribbon weavers paid them on Acc <sup>t</sup>	102 3 8
131.1	14	By Francis Leigh paid part of his Bill to David Jamieson for Lbs	51 11 1
102.1	15	By John Hockham & Co <sup>s</sup> Hosiers paid them on Acc <sup>t</sup>	49 7
55.1		By Thomas Shrimpton Brazier paid him on Acc <sup>t</sup>	51 13 1
56.1	16	By Skerrman & Co <sup>s</sup> Chenamers paid them on Acc <sup>t</sup>	28 12 6
71.1	17	By Peter Conway Collarmaker (C <sup>t</sup> W <sup>t</sup> R <sup>t</sup> deat)	9 7
107.1	18	By Robert Smith	



Could this acct be for his engraving work on the notes issued  
by Virginia in 1774 & again in 1775? No substantiating evidence  
found as yet.



James) Raper (Bank of America) April 6, 1773

A List of Books of Treasury Notes sent  
into the Treasury by the Countersigners. 1773

(50 sheets per book) (2 notes per sheet)

1300KS	12- From No. 1. to 12. . . . .	at £12. . . . .	£20/ . . . . .	47,800. . . . .
	24- From . 13. to 36 . . . . .	at 8. . . . .	£20/ . . . . .	10,800. . . . .
	20- From . 37. to 56. . . . .	at 5. . . . .	£20/ . . . . .	6,000. . . . .
10- BOOKS	From 57. to 66 . . . . .	at 3. . . . .	£20/ . . . . .	2,000. . . . .

12 - 600 - 12 £ notes  
24 - 1200 - 8 £ notes  
20 - 1000 - 5 £ notes  
10 - 500 - 3 £ notes  
- 3300 - 20s notes

John Blair  
Dec<sup>r</sup> 23. 1774.

£26,600. . . . .

"London Bank notes"

A List of the last Treasury Notes of 1774 sent  
by the Countersigners into the Treasury  
(LAST).

No. 4. 500. . . . .	£5. . . . .	£2500. . . . .
2. 100. . . . .	do. . . . .	500. . . . .
3. 100. . . . .	do. . . . .	500. . . . .
4. 100. . . . .	do. . . . .	500. . . . .
5. 100. . . . .	do. . . . .	500. . . . .
		<u>4500. . . . .</u>

1<sup>st</sup> Book 500. . . . . £3. . . . . 1500. . . . .  
2600. . . . .

Books 1 to 19 inclusive of 2. 100 Bills each . . . . . 1100. . . . .

Books 1 to 11 inclusive of 20/ 100 Bills each . . . . . 9,700. . . . .

John Blair  
Dec<sup>r</sup> 23. 1774.

BOOKS

5 - 900 - 5 £ notes  
1 - 500 - 3 £ notes  
13 - 1300 - 2 £ notes  
11 - 1100 - 20s notes  
3800 Total notes in 30 Books

24,600 £  
9,400 £  
34,000 £

very close to  
the authorized  
figure of 36, ~~34~~ £  
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**Advertisements.**

TREASURY OFFICE, April 26, 1774.

IT having been represented to me that Doubts are entertained in several Parts of the Country of the Goodness of some of the Treasury Notes of the last Emission, because there are found double Numbers of some of the Bills, I think it necessary to inform the Publick that the upper Number of each Bill only denotes the Number of the Book out of which it was taken, and that the lower Number shows the Series of the Bill; both of which are of singular Use to the Treasury, where the original Books, with their Counter Checks, are carefully preserved. The Paper on which the Money was impressed consisted of single Slips, each containing two Bills; fifty of those Slips were bound in separate Books, which were numbered from Book 1 to 78 inclusive; so that, of the Notes in Circulation, there may be found one Hundred, whose upper Numbers are the same, though the lower Numbers are all different. The Manner in which it was proposed to fill up these Bills was explained, and universally approved, at the last Session of Assembly, and I did not suppose the smallest Doubts could arise in any Part of the Country. I have endeavoured to trace every Report that has been circulated to the Prejudice of the new Money, and can truly declare that I have not the least Reason to suspect that any of it has been counterfeited. I will not presume to say it is impossible to be done; but am hopeful that the great Difficulties, which must attend it, have discouraged even an Attempt. These Bills, however, will be very speedily called in, and I am persuaded that all Doubts and Scruples will be effectually removed.

(2) RO. C. NICHOLAS, Treasurer.

**T**HE Subscriber has for Sale on the most reasonable Terms, and to be entered upon immediately, a valuable Tract of LAND lying on both Sides of Tarble Creek in Halifax County, within two Miles of the Courthouse, containing 700 Acres, about 100 of which are cleared Land, under a good Fence, there is on the said Land a good Dwelling House, Barn, out Buildings, a Dairy,

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one for the Redemption of Treas. Notes issued in 1769 & 1771

An Account of Money borrow'd of sundry Pe  
 1773  
 March 17. Mr John Green bond of Warrburg £1000. -- --  
 31. Mr Mary Burton Bolling (Pr Geo). 50. -- --  
 May 7. Mr Thomas Newton - - - 2800. -- --  
 June 4. Mr Bing Waller - - - 250. -- --  
 1774  
 June 21. Mr Thomas Newton. 140. -- --

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Finding that such Part of the Fund as was expected  
 to arise from Ordinary Licences is likely to be diminished, and it having been represented to me that this is  
 owing to many Ordinary Keepers failing to renew their  
 Licences regularly, I must beg it as a Favour of the  
 Gentlemen Deputy Attornies to give some Attention  
 to this Business, and I will, on Demand, pay all Fees  
 that may arise in such Prosecutions as they may think  
 necessary to engage in, where they cannot be had of  
 the Delinquents.

RO. C. NICHOLAS,

WILLIAMSBURG, December 11, 1772.

PURSUANT to the Act of Assembly, we this Day repaired to the public Treasury, and, having examined the Treasurer's Accounts of the different Receipts and Payments since the last Settlement, and compared them with their proper Vouchers, find that they are all fairly and justly stated. The Balance due to the public Account appears to be one thousand one hundred and forty nine Pounds five Shillings and eight Pence three Farthings; the Balance due to the Fund of old Taxes we find to be ten thousand and fifty four Pounds thirteen Shillings and five Pence; the Balance due to the Fund of ten thousand Pounds, issued in 1769, we find to be nine thousand and ninety eight Pounds; and the Balance of the Taxes appropriated to the Redemption to the last thirty thousand Pounds, which have been received, to be five thousand nine hundred and forty seven Pounds eighteen Shillings and seven Pence. We have this Day burnt and destroyed of such Treasury Notes as are now redeemable, to the Amount of twenty thousand five hundred and thirteen Pounds nineteen Shillings. The several Balances which are still due to the Public the Treasurer produced to us, and they remain in his Hands to be accounted for at a future Day.

JOHN RANDOLPH,  
JOHN BLAIR,  
BEN: WALLER,  
GEORGE WYTHE.

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Printed Dec 30, 1773.

"VA Gazette"

NO. 399

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tion, have a place in this paper, as the principles upon which I set out will then, I flatter myself, plead my excuse with every party. In the mean time, I am thankful for the friendly hint the ATTENTIVE OBSERVER has given me, and will endeavour to profit by it; though I am not conscious of having deviated from that spirit of freedom which I shall always think it my duty to maintain.

CLEMENTINA RIND.

WILLIAMSBURG, December 23, 1773.

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IN pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, we this day repaired to the public treasury, and having examined the Treasurer's accounts of the different receipts and payments since the last settlement, and compared them with their proper vouchers, find they are fairly and justly stated. The balance of the public account now in the Treasurer's hands we find to be £.8308 2 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Of the old treasury notes, we have burnt and destroyed £.8652 3 3. Of those issued in 1769, the sum of £.1580; and of those issued in 1771, the sum of £.4536. The Treasurer produced to us the several balances still due to the public, and they remain in his hands, to be accounted for at a future day.

LEWIS BURWELL,  
JOHN RANDOLPH,  
JOHN BLAIR,  
BEN: WALLER.

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AS I intend to leave this colony sometime in January next, it is earnestly requested that those who may have any demands against my father's estate will produce their accounts to the commissioners appointed by the court of Orange to settle them, on or before the 15th of January next. No claims whatever can be attended to after that time.

JAMES MARSHALL.

To be SOLD, at Charles City courthouse, on Wednesday the 5th day of January next,

SEVERAL likely Virginia NEGROES, belonging to the estate of Richard Riddlehurst, deceased. The purchasers will have three months credit, on giving bond and security to

The EXECUTORS.

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(Print) Dec 29, 1774 "VA Gazette" No. 451

JOHN CARLYLE,  
WILLIAM RAMSAY,  
WILLIAM HARTSHORNE.

On Tuesday last, being the feast of saint John the evangelist, the body of FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, in order to celebrate the same, went in procession to the church, where an excellent sermon was preached by the reverend Mr. Dixon (one of the fraternity) from the 13th chapter of John, and part of the 34th verse, *A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another.* In the evening a frugal ball was given to the ladies, whose chearfulness and affability, it seems, did honour to themselves, and consequently gave the utmost pleasure to every attending BROTHER.

\* \* \* In order to retrieve a much injured character from the base aspersions thrown out last week in this gazette by Mr. Miskell, and his adherents, doctor De Sabbe presents his compliments to the public, and hopes they will suspend their opinion, in consequence of the above mentioned piece, till next week, when he intends to make a calm, deliberate defence, in answer to Mr. Miskell's publication.

PURSUANT to an act of the general assembly, we this day repaired to the public treasury, and having carefully examined the treasurer's accounts of the different receipts and payments since the last settlement, and compared the same with their proper vouchers, find that they are all fairly and justly stated.

There appears due to the public account a balance of seven thousand and eight pounds, seventeen shillings, and a penny. From the fund of old treasury notes there is due to the other funds the sum of nineteen thousand nine hundred and seventy nine pounds, eight shillings, and nine pence: The balance due to the fund of notes issued in 1769, and cash borrowed for their redemption, is seven thousand and sixty three pounds, twelve shillings. The ballance due to the funds of notes, of the emissions of 1771, and 1773, including such of those notes as have not been actually issued amounts to 28,614l. 18s. 1d. farthing. The balance due to the emission of 1774, including such of the notes of this date as have not been yet issued, amounts to 9668l. 17s. 5d. We have burnt and destroyed of the old notes 5,851l. 3s. 9d. of the emission in 1769, 1093l. of that in 1771, 2531l. and of the emission in 1773, 6178l. in all, 15,643l. 3s. 9d. The treasurer produced to us the full balances due to the public account, and the several different funds, which remain in his hands to be accounted for at a future day. Given under our hands this 22d day of December, 1774.

BEN: WALLER,  
JOHN BLAIR,  
GEORGE WYTHER.

PURSUANT to the last will and testament of Joseph Parrott, deceased, will be sold, to the highest bidder, at James City courthouse, on the 9th of January next, being court day, six likely NEGROES. The terms will be made known at the time of sale, by  
SAMUEL TROWER, executor.

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TRUTH.



A thorough search was made from June to December 1775 for a corresponding report on the activities of the Treasurer's Office for 1775 and not found. (P.S.) at least, not published.



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STAUNTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
STAUNTON VIRGINIA

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7-1762

Gen. Coll. THE  
**Statutes at Large;**

BEING

A COLLECTION

OF ALL THE

**LAWS OF VIRGINIA,**

FROM THE

FIRST SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE,

IN THE YEAR 1619.

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PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO AN ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF VIRGINIA, PASSED ON THE FIFTH DAY OF FEBRUARY,  
ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHT.

—:O:—  
VOLUME VIII.

—:O:O:O:—  
By WILLIAM WALLER HENING.

—:O:O:O:—  
"The *Laws* of a country are necessarily connected with every thing be-  
longing to the people of it; so that a thorough knowledge of *them*, and  
of their progress would inform us of every thing that was most use-  
ful to be known about them; and one of the greatest imperfections  
of historians in general, is owing to their ignorance of law."  
PRIESTLEY'S LECT. ON HIST. Vol. I. pa. 149.

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RICHMOND:  
PRINTED FOR THE EDITOR.  
J. & G. COCHRAN, PRINTERS.

\*\*\*\*\*  
1821.



persons, bodies politic and corporate, their respective heirs and successors, other than the persons claiming under the will of the said Gillee Gromarrin, the elder, all such right, title, and interest, as they, every, or any of them, should or might have or claim if this act had never been made. *Provided always*, That the execution of this act be, and the same is hereby suspended until his majesty's approbation thereof shall be obtained.

## ANNO REGNI

## GEORGE III.

Regis Magnæ, Britanniaë, Franciaë, et  
Hiberniaë, tertio.

*At a General Assembly, begun and held at the Capitol, in the City of Williamsburg, on Monday, the tenth day of February, in the twelfth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the third, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, &c. Annoque Domini one thousand-seven hundred and seventy two, and from thence continued by several prorogations, and convened by proclamation the fourth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three, being the second session of this present General Assembly.*

Lord Dun-  
more, Go-  
vernor.

## CHAP. 1.

*An act for the better securing the public credit of this colony.*

I. WHEREAS pursuant to an act of assembly, made in the tenth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled *An act for the better support of the contingent charges of government, treasury notes were emitted to the amount of ten thousand pounds, and pursuant to one other act, passed in the eleventh year of his majesty's reign, intituled An act for the relief of the sufferers by the loss of tobacco damaged or burnt in several warehouses. the further sum of thirty thousand pounds*

Recital.



was emitted in other treasury notes, the greater part whereof yet remain in circulation, all which notes, at the times of their respective emissions, were thought to be effectually guarded against forgeries; but it hath been lately discovered that some ill disposed persons have counterfeited many of the said notes in so ingenious and dangerous a manner that it is difficult to distinguish the forged from the good bills, whereby the credit of both emissions is greatly diminished, and the inhabitants of this colony, as well as others trading with them, are likely to be imposed upon, unless all the said notes are speedily called in and destroyed. And whereas, from the want of gold and silver in the public treasury, there are no means left to remedy the great and manifest mischiefs which are to be apprehended, but either by borrowing a sufficient sum in specie, or emitting other treasury notes better guarded against forgeries, which, from certain samples of paper produced to this general assembly, it is judged may be effected: *Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted, by the authority of the same, That Robert Carter Nicholas, esquire, treasurer of this colony, or the treasurer for the time being, appointed by or pursuant to act of assembly, shall be and is hereby empowered and required to "borrow" of such person or persons as may be willing to lend the same any sum or sums of money not exceeding thirty six thousand eight hundred and thirty four pounds, at the interest of five per centum per annum, to be by him applied in the first place, for and towards the redemption of all such treasury notes of the emission, pursuant to the first mentioned act, as shall be produced to him, and when that shall be done, then for and towards the redemption of all such treasury notes, emitted under the second act, as shall be produced to him.* And if the said treasurer shall not be able to "borrow" the whole or any part of the said thirty six thousand eight hundred and thirty four pounds within one month after passing this act, the said treasurer, or the treasurer for the time being, shall and he is hereby empowered and required to issue promissory notes in his own name, but as treasurer of this colony, for any sum or sums that may be requisite to make up the deficiency of such sums as he shall not be able to "borrow," to be by him exchanged for notes of the emission, pursuant to the said second act, which

Treasurer authorized to borrow money for redemption of notes.

Or may issue new notes.

(1771)

notes, so to be issued, shall be written on the paper, of which a sample is now produced, signed by the said treasurer, countersigned by Peyton Randolph and John Blair, esquires, and numbered by James Hubard and Peter Pelham, gentlemen, and shall be made payable on or before the tenth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and seventy five. And the said treasurer shall moreover cause such device or devices to be impressed upon the backs of the said notes as he shall judge most likely to secure the same against counterfeits and forgeries.

*"James River"*  
How signed and countersigned.

II. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That the said promissory notes, so to be issued, shall pass current throughout this colony, in all payments, to such persons as may be willing to receive the same, and shall be redeemed by the treasurer, or the treasurer for the time being, appointed as aforesaid, on the first day of June, one thousand seven hundred and seventy four, in the first place, by applying so much of the money as shall then have come to his hands from the duties and taxes imposed by the said recited acts; and if the said duties and taxes, to be received before the said day, shall not be sufficient for that purpose, the said treasurer shall and he is hereby empowered and required either to borrow so much money in specie at the annual interest before mentioned as will make up the deficiency, or, in case he should not be able to "borrow" the whole or any part of the sum necessary for that purpose by the time appointed, the said treasurer shall and he is hereby empowered to issue other treasury notes, to redeem such of the notes, to be issued by virtue of this act, as then remain in circulation, which last notes, to be issued as the case may require, shall be imprinted on the most proper paper that can in the mean time be procured by him from Great Britain, in such manner as he shall judge most likely to secure the said notes from counterfeits and forgeries, and the same shall be signed by Peyton Randolph and John Blair, esquires, numbered by James Hubard and Peter Pelham, gentlemen, and endorsed by the treasurer for the time being, to such person or persons as shall be willing to receive the same in lieu of the other notes, for which they are intended to be exchanged, and the said last mentioned notes, when issued, shall be current in like manner as the notes first directed to be issued.

Currency of treasury notes.

*"London" paper*

Notes to redemption of others; how executed.



Howard W Harner Jr to  
Eric F Newman 10/6/1999

Some observations on the James Reier & Lowdon note  
issues of 1773 and 1774.

36,834 £

This number, mentioned in Henning's Statutes  
in the proceedings of VA's General Assembly of  
March 4, 1773, has been the principal focus  
of the entire act, however, the act fails to  
point out specifically, how that number was  
determined, and why it is most important.

Only upon reading the Treasurer's article  
in the July 1773 issue of the VA Gazette does  
one gain real insight & understanding of what  
really occurred and why they, the Assembly, did  
what they did.

This no. 36,834 £ is really nothing more than  
a estimate or guesstimate of the total amount of  
the 1769 & 1771 notes remaining in circulation.  
How was it achieved? Did they ~~simply~~ <sup>simply</sup> note  
the total of each issue that the Treasurer's office  
had accumulated from taxes, duties, etc, and then  
subtract those amounts from the known ~~issue~~  
amounts of each issue? otherwise how else? Is this  
the best or most logical way perhaps the most  
expedient method they could choose? probably  
so.

The idea of "BORROWING" hard money, specie,  
from the public up to but not exceeding that  
amount, all within 30 days is nothing short of



mediculous, totally disingenuous, if not fraudulent. From Nicholas's Gazette article in Sept 1773, he acknowledges that a great deal of hard money had already left the colony, therefore little could be available for the State to borrow from those now willing to loan it to a State that, in effect, allowed its currency to be counterfeited. However, treasurer Nicholas was able to borrow 1050 £ within those 30 days as the enclosed xerox will show.

I failed to mention that the treasurer's office, at this time, held little gold or silver to redeem either of the two issues.

Back to the number 36,834 £.

The amount of the issue of 1769 remaining in circulation <sup>(estimated)</sup> amounted to 7,834 £, whose date of redemption by the treasurer's office was Nov 20, 1771 which had passed, as of March 1773, and no new notes could be legally substituted for them as judged by the assembly. The amount of the issue of 1771 remaining in circulation was estimated to be **29,000 £**, and, since its date of redemption was not until Dec 10, 1775, the assembly felt that substituting new James Ruess notes for this issue was perfectly legal, and proper; therefore, the treasurer was authorized to issue the James Ruess paper in an amount not to exceed **29,000 £**.

The following table is a listing of all the James Ruess notes issued, by denomination, taken from the actual records.



see enclosed XEROX, part upper.

James Ruir Notes dated April 1, 1773

Denomination	Number Issued
12 £	600
8 £	1200
5 £	1000
3 £	500
20s or 1 £	3300
[spoils not mentioned]	

These notes were produced in sheets consisting of 2 notes per sheet, each sheet of the entire issue contained one 20 shilling note, and one of either a 3, 5, 8, or 12 pound note or denomination. These sheets of 2 notes each, having decorative edges, were bound into books, with decorative edges on the spine of the book, so when removed by varying cutting or indenting, from the book, each removed note would have on its edge or border, a distinctive contour, which, any note, at any future time might be re-matched to its original position within that book, verifying its authenticity as a Treasury Issue.

In order to facilitate this re-matching or validation <sup>(of any note)</sup> as a legitimate issue, a special numbering system was devised, which, might best be described as a "fractional number", having a numerator and denominator. The numerator number, always refers to a specific BOOK, number, as each book was assigned



a special number, written on its cover and probably on its spine flat. (perhaps one of these might have survived and are now a part of the Treasurers records RG-12.)

The denominator number is the number of the note within that specific book, or, one might say its serial number, within that series of issue.

Each book containing notes of the James Ruir April 1, 1773 issue, contained 100 notes, and since there were 66 books issued of this series, there were a total of 6600 notes issued. The numerator numbers would be from 1  $\rightarrow$  66 inclusive, and the denominators would ~~be~~ have numbers 1  $\rightarrow$  6599 inclusive.

Of the following, please refer to the enclosed XEROX. The 20 shilling notes could have numerator no's 1  $\rightarrow$  66 as this note was common to every sheet in every book. The 12 £ note would have numerator no's 1  $\rightarrow$  12 inclusive and the remaining notes as indicated.

In the Library of VA's collection of this 1773 issue is a note whose numerator corresponds to the enclosed treasurers record number, as does the 5 £ note numerator shown in your book, p. 436; 1990 edition. However, the 3 £ note, 1773 issue, shown, in color, in your same work, does not agree.



It is my opinion that this note was intended as a sample note, not~~x~~ for circulation, to show its qualities to whomsoever deemed necessary. This might be born out by its excellent almost uncirculated condition. Again, "opinion" only.

Again, please refer to the same Treasurer's record XEROX on the James Ruess Issue of 1773. The total amount of this James Ruess note issue was 26,600 £, contained in 66 books.

Now, please consult the ~~record~~ XEROX page showing the Treasurer's Office notice dated April 26, 1774 from the Virginia Gazette.

The text mentions that 78 books of notes were prepared, perhaps not completely as they might not have any printing on the back, ~~and~~ that is books numbered 67 through 78.

These books of notes were not a part of the April 1, 1773 issue, but if they had been added to this issue, the total amount of the issue would have been 28,800 £, very nearly the 29,000 £ limit.

I am not enclosing the treasurer's record on these books 67-78 as they do not play a part of this April 1773 issue, but they were to become a part of the James Ruess note issue of 1775 and will be forwarded with voluminous additional material on that issue.



"The London Ashby note issue of 1774"  
authorized by the General Assembly, March 4, 1773

I'm not sure how best to describe this issue, but here goes. Please refer to the xerox copy of Hening Statutes, volume VIII, p. 649 paragraph II. I hope, for the sake of clarity, the following is its meaning.

... The said promissory notes, [James Ruir] to be issued, shall pass current throughout this colony, and shall be redeemed by the Treasurer on June 1, 1774 by issuing other treasury notes, [London Ashby], ~~as there remain in circulation~~ to such person or persons as shall be willing to receive the same, in lieu of the other notes [James Ruir] for which they [London Ashby], are intended to be exchanged.

Those persons holding James Ruir notes, which all have a payable in specie date of Dec 10, 1775, could, if they desired, exchange them for an equal amount of London Ashby notes on June 1, 1774 or, hold them to their redemption date for specie, on Dec 10, 1775, or, use them to discharge debt in the course of ordinary commerce to those willing to accept them.

Please refer to the portion of my text which I lined out. On many a casual reading of the text of paragraph II, and considering the



on June 1, 1774  
line), "as then remain in circulation," I  
assumed the following:

The Treasurer's Office had emitted over 26,000 £<sup>s</sup> of James Ruess notes beginning April 1, 1773 and after only 14 months in circulation the vast majority of them were still outstanding, so if those notes were to be exchanged for "London notes" on June 1, 1774, the London note issue would have to be almost as large as the James Ruess issue.

Please refer to the Xerox of Treasurer's Notice in the VA Gazette of April 26, 1774, last sentence:

These bills, [James Ruess] however, will be very speedily called in... It does sound mandatory, however, only after many readings of paragraph II did I read the essence of the last sentence; "... to such person or persons as shall be willing...", not mandatory at all. I wonder how many people were confused at this notice, and not being aware of the actual statute.

I also believed that on June 1, 1774, about 9 A.M., a considerable line of people would have formed at the Treasurer's Office, ready to make the note exchange, well, if this had been the case, both Virginia Gazettes published currently, failed to mention it, I checked; nothing.

Please refer to the Treasurer's Office record Xerox, page that has both James Ruess & London Ashby notes issue by denomination and amount each.



see enclosed xerox, lower portion..

London Ashby notes dated March 4, 1773  
Issued June 1, 1774 →.

Denomination	Number issued
5 £ notes	900
3 £ notes	500
2 £ notes	1300
20s notes	1100

[Spillages not mentioned]

3800 notes totaling £9,700.

The Treasurer's record just referred to,  
states: the last Treasury notes of 1774 etc,

The Committee report of Dec 22, 1774 (XEROX)  
enclosed, taken from the Virginia Gazette issue of  
Dec 28, 1774, refers to the emission of 1774

I believe this issue began June 1, 1774 &  
using the Dec 28, 1774 Committee report as my only  
guide, and continued to the end of the year.

The sheet construction of both issues is apparent  
from the one xerox ~~sheet~~ page of the Treasurer's record.

Well, Eric, I might have strayed somewhat  
from the numismatic reservation in including  
all the previous, I hope you might find it  
interesting and perhaps informative, It has been  
a learning experience for me.

Most Sincerely,  
Oct 6, 1999 Howard W. Hanner Jr



Howard W. Harner, Jr.  
32 Woodland Dr.  
Staunton, VA 24401

October 15, 1999

Dear Howard:

The package has so much information I will have to study the matter at length.

I mention at this time only two items:

1. The pattern for the high denomination 1776 issue should go in the next edition. It is wonderful.
2. Your wonderment as to why the currency outstanding cannot be calculated by subtracting the destroyed and on hand total from the issued total is explainable. The officials probably burned some counterfeit bills thinking they were genuine or some official secretly stole or reissued bills already redeemed. No one wished to admit any error or the possible theft.

Thank you so much for the enormous amount of work you put into it. Did you retain a copy of your report? It is truly a treasure trove. I'll try to write again when I study the matter further.

My best,

Eric P. Newman



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

To: Howard W. Harner, Jr.  
32 Woodland Dr.  
Staunton, VA 24401

April 26, 2000

From: Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63105

In the VA issue of May 6, 1776 my book indicates 24,561 printed of the four denominations in monetary dollars (\$1/6, \$1/3, \$4, \$5) being the denominations used mostly. These could be on a slip, part on half sheet, all on a half sheet or on a full sheet. Total value \$233,330 or £70,000.

There were 1,000 printed each of 20 shillings, £2, £3, £4 Another slip. Total £10,000.

There were 10,000 each printed of 5s, 7s6d, 10s, and 12s6d for another slip. Total £17,500.

There were 6,667 of each of the two types of 1s3d and 2s6d in another slip. Total £2,500  
Grand total £ 100,000.

Sixteen denominations. Only twelve printed on a sheet. It must first be decided If the notes are laid out 2 horizontally and 6 vertically or 3 horizontally and 4 vertically. A group of 4 for a slip or a group of 6 for a half page can be done with either formation.

The paper can be cut horizontally or vertically for a half sheet in either format. It must be cut vertically for a slip in a 3 X 4 format or horizontally in a 2 X 6 format. If a slip is cut off the sheet the remaining two thirds can be printed with a flip over for 4 notes and the one third cut off can be used for regular printing.

We know that 12 notes could be printed on a full sheet to the extent practical and that substitutions in position can be made in the frame.

In the 1776 issue the full sheet would be printed 6,667 times. Then a substitution of 4 notes would be printed 1,000 times. Now two of the sets of 4 are completed and only 8 notes are left to complete, There could be 3,333 printings of a group of 6 and another 3,333 printings of a partly changed group of 6. They still need 10, 228 more of one group (24, 561 less 6667, less 1000, less 3333, less 3333). This could be done by cutting off one third of the sheet and flipping the two third portion or by cutting off two one third slips and printing each separately.

Please see if this is logical.

As to the Virginia July 17. 1775 issue I only have 11 different small notes listed. That is all I know of. There should be one more making 12 in a frame. From an inclusion in the next issue I presume a £5 note is missing from 1775. Perhaps they held in reserve, didn't print or threw away all the small size £5 notes and used only the Ashby £5 notes because they were more impressive. Running out of paper doesn't solve this.

What do you think? Is there any way of learning the quantities?

Your findings are fascinating. Keep finding the impossible.



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Howard W. Harner  
32 Woodland Dr.  
Staunton, VA 24401

July 20, 2000

Dear Howard:

What fascinating detail you found as to the Virginia issues. You must have read endless accounts and endless newspapers etc.

I thank you for a masterpiece of research. I can't get to it for a while but it is sensational.

Thrive,



Eric P. Newman

10-10-00

From  
ERIC P. NEWMAN  
6450 CECIL AVE  
ST LOUIS MO 63105

TO

HOWARD W HARNER  
32 WOODLAND DR  
STAUNTON VA 24401



Eric

The Library is installing  
a new copy machine  
and when completed I  
will send a xerox of the  
May 1778 Hemming statue.

1-1-2001

H. W. H. Jr

Happy New Year!



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

5/15/05

Mr. Howard R. Harner  
32 Woodland Drive  
Staunton, VA 24401

Dear Howard:

To think that many years have passed since our wonderful communications about Virginia numismatics took place. I am delighted to have good reason to open the door again. Hello. I hope you are in fine shape.

The pleasant news is that the new owners of Krause Publications have agreed to publish a 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Early Paper Money of America* after enthusiasm in this field has arisen. You did so much in researching Virginia matters that I would be privileged if you would rework and correct the Virginia section as I felt you always were happy to do. Would you enjoy doing it and let me give you appropriate credit for the work. There is no panic and I will send you any items you sent me if you did not retain or have trouble locating your copies.

As for me I am installing a numismatic museum of 3,000 sq. ft. in a 60,000 sq. ft. museum at Washington University in St. Louis. It is under construction and to be open in fall 2006. My wife and I will operate it as part of an art museum open to the public and for teaching. I had a museum for 20 years in a bank in St. Louis until they threw me out 5 years ago.

I participated in a recent article on Virginia halfpence in order to bring my old writings on the subject up to date. I have other research in progress.

You probably are forwarding your many other interests as well.

I hope you are vigorous and look forward to hearing from you. I so much appreciate all you have done for me in the past.

My very best wishes.

Eric

Email ERICNUMIS@AOL.COM  
Tel 314-727-0850  
Fax 314-727-0820



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

7/25/05

Mr Howard W. Harner  
32 Woodland Dr  
Staunton, VA 24401

Dear Howard:

My wife and I were in Alaska when your letter containing marvelous new detail on numismatic Virginia information arrived. It opened the door on the number of VA 1/2 pence in a keg and other coinage mysteries as well as clarifying paper money issues matters. I am very grateful and really excited.

I telephoned you immediately 1-703-886-6651 and received a busy signal. For the next week I tried many many times. I concluded that you had received so many unnecessary calls that you just took the receiver off the hook.

Will you write me or call me as to the problem as I want to talk to you or if you have E-mail tell me your E-mail address. My Email is ERICNUM15@AOL.COM

I look forward to hearing from you

My best

Eric



7-24-05

Dear Eric

I hope the return address on the envelope is not frightening, as I did not mention anything about it in my last mailing. Somewhat embarrassing, as I will be here for a year plus if everything goes smoothly.

My telephone was requested to be disconnected on July 18th, my day of arrival here. If you got a busy signal rather than a recording stating not in service, I don't understand why.

All of my Revolutionary War period data on Va notes is at home but I promise you it will be consulted, and hopefully complete the info on the Oct '76, May & Oct '77 issues as soon as I return.

My Case was handled by Mrs John Youngs P.C. of Arlington VA., Phone ~~1-703-593-4080~~ 1-703-593-4080 or Douglas Wham; 1-703-628-5639 for particulars, or, if you wish me to explain, I will gladly do so.

Hoping to hear from you, via mail, and let me know how things are with you. Everything here is O.K.

Best Wishes,

Sincerely,

H. W. Hamer Jr  
(H. W.)

P.S. Use the return address as on the envelope.



Oct 12, 2005

Dear Eric

Just a short note to let you know that everything is O.K. here, but of course it could be better.

I wrote Doug Wham, to share anything you wish to know regarding my case. I also instructed my power of attorney in Staunton, Gordon Barlow to duplicate all the papers I was furnished with, regarding same.

I was advised by Mr. Wham & Mr. Youngs shortly after sentencing, May 26th, not to appeal my case, too much expense & time involved.

I wrote a letter to the court in agreement with that advice. They may have been right, I am not absolutely sure.

I heard during the sentencing, only a part, perhaps 50% of Sarah Cheson's (act <sup>prosecutor's</sup> ~~prosecutor's~~) oral presentation, soft, low spoken, so I could not advise Doug Wham to counter what may have been said.

I think ~~was~~ the minimum sentence; 2 yrs + 3 yrs supervised probation. + \$10,000 fine, under ~~the~~ the guidelines pre BOKER. Just a little to march for a 62 year old with no prior record.

Perhaps some form of appeal on the political side of things may be of value. Looking forward to hearing from you and hoping everything is alright in St. Louis.

Very Respectfully,  
Sincerely,  
Howard W. Hanner



Sat, Nov 12, 2005

Dear Eric

Hoping this finds you well, things are O.K. here. I wrote you on Oct 13,th and explained my reason for being here and other matters concerning my case. I requested my power of attorney Gordon Barlow in Staunton to forward to you copies of all papers provided by my original attorney John Youngs, with Doug Wham succeeding him at my sentencing. I hope you have received them and have perused them.

Please write soon, look forward to hearing from you.

Most Sincerely,  
H. W. Harnes



2-24-06

Dear Eric

Greetings from Washington, as much as I can be, from here. I believe certain questions you may pose have been unanswered, and I hope the following will suffice.

P.S. the P.S.I.

report indicates  
all occurred  
with my help.

Most of the letters taken, were sold to a local individual. I felt obligated to compensate him to the best of my ability, so, I gave him firearms, coins, barometers etc to the accepted value of \$24 thousand dollars. He stated, without documentary evidence, he gave me over the span of 4 or 5 years, approx 60 thousand dollars. He has several cancelled checks to the value of 15 thousand dollars, the rest was paid me in cash. I stated to him that I would compensate him for the value when I can so I kept no records of the various transactions. The no. (60k) may well be correct.

My power of attorney has stated several times that he, the lawyer, is somewhat patient, but, his wife may not be. My power of attorney Gordon Barlow is a friend to both of us, I had always supposed. I'm not sure in this case, he is looking after my home at 32 Woodland Dr., it has been winterized and I call him every Sunday morning to check, all is well there. Love the home free & clear.

None of my C.W. research was for anyone other than myself. This was all done at the National Archives in D.C. The information I provided you came from the Library of HA, which, with Candy Edwards, Archivist <sup>HELP</sup> ~~that~~ was provided by their Replication service. There is no correlation between the two researches.



I have been self-employed since 1989, buying & selling  
firearms, old radios, personal collections of C.W. ~~and~~  
artifacts, etc. this can be verified by Gregg Clemmer  
a good friend & C.W. artifact hunter for over 30 years!  
Once again, the home is free of all debt; ... my father  
built 32 Woodland DR in 1950, which I remember well.  
It is sacred property to me.

I have a credit card debt with AT & T Univ. card  
which my P.O.A. says he has written them explaining  
I can no longer make payments as I am incarcerated,  
and have only several thousand on <sup>bank</sup> account which I  
draw on for my subsistence here. I also have some  
stock which is currently depressed which I may sell to  
alleviate local obligations. My SS payments were  
suspended beginning June 2005

now, I have never written about my love of  
research. The material on VA Currency was  
discussed while looking for other info. I had your  
book on Early Currency of the U.S. and realized I  
could contribute in that arena. The cost was  
modest, and, after talking to you and gaining  
additional guaranty, I pursued it as far as the  
Treas & Auditors surviving records would permit.  
If I could enlighten you on your incredible  
research, that would be most satisfying to me  
as it provided me with the ability to contribute  
to the knowledge of the VA currency, and the VA  
half-penny. Most gratifying.

Hope this finds you ~~well~~ and wife and  
family well and prosperous.

Sincerely,

Howard W. Harris

P.S. Please write as often as you can, if you  
need further info, please ask.



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

---

Mr. Howard Harner, Jr.  
27998-016  
Federal Correctional Institution  
P.O. Box 1000  
Morgantown, WV 26507-1000

February 16, 2006

Dear Howard:

Thank you for your February 6, 2006 letter telling me some of your personal history. It was important that you helped locate some of the misappropriated items.

My publisher has approved the preparation of the 5th edition of The Early Paper Money of America and it is scheduled for late 2006 distribution. It will naturally include material from your findings on 18<sup>th</sup> century Virginia paper money and your name as a contributor.

I suggest that you may volunteer to give one or more programs on the history of the Civil War where you are. It would be educational and interesting to your companions and also a worthwhile project to prepare. It might help in other ways.

I have misplaced copies of two microfilm prints you sent us on the Virginia copper halfpence entries from the Virginia Treasurer's records. One gave the total amount of coinage received and the other involved the transfer of 12 kegs of them. Would you permit me to write to Canley Edwards for another copy or do you want to write him or her for me.

I will send a copy of this or any prior letter written by me to you with your permission to anyone you suggest.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman



Feb 23, 06

Dear Eric

Responding to yours of the 16th Feb, and I hope my memory of the 2 missing items will be adequate. None of my notes were brought here or sent, so June 2005. I wish you had copied all (removed) of the items sent on July 15th 2005 and returned them; some of those items I have no retained copy; particularly the ~~extract~~ items from the Acts of the General Assembly on the issues of Oct 76 & May, Oct 1777.

Now to address the 2 issues mentioned.  
12 kegs of VA half-pence. Each full bag had <sup>(13,440)</sup> 528  
memory & on Jan 15th 1777 the Treasurers record indicates receipt of 12 kegs. This is the last entry of halfpence to the Treasury from "ye magazine". Of these 12 kegs;

I believe these 3 kegs of coins were melted down to make components for muskets and other items needed by the state.

2 kegs went to the Markham works, owned by Isaac Lane, located West of Winchester VA on Cedar Creek. They were major contractors to the state for war material, cannon, shot, salt & pans, etc.

1 keg went to the firm of Stephen & Noble located in Martinsburg VA now W. VA, a firearms manufacturer.

[CONTINENTAL]  
1 keg went to the Deputy Quartermaster, (Federal, not state) Southern Dept, Lt. Col. — located in Williamsburg.

The remaining 8 kegs were expended during ordinary business by the Treasurers, the last note on coin was in April 1778. No subsequent entry for May 78.  
(over)



The amount of the VA  $\frac{1}{2}$  pence received & money & The amount of £ was approx 1012, the no of shillings & pence is not recalled, this account may be found on misc microfilm, reels 644 or 645, not sure which; I believe it was listed as below &

(Dr) "Acct with John Norton & son Merchants, London" (Cr)  
£ copper money 1012 etc  
accts were from 1767? to 1775?. £ 1012 x 5 x p

Mrs. Conley Edwards can locate the acct., by all means contact him as the Archivist of the Library of VA.

Please include my name as a contributor to the VA  $\frac{1}{2}$  pence when you expand on it once more.

I sincerely hope you include all of the data found on the Paper issues of 1773 to 1781. it was not easy to find & calculate, both from films of VA's Treasurer's & Auditors accounts. Some issues, Oct 76 & May, Oct 77 will be worked on when I have the liberty to do so.

Hope this finds you and wife and family well, and may you do well in all your pursuits.

Sincerely,  
H. W. Edwards Jr



Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63105  
Ericnumis @ AOL.com

March 6, 2006

Mr. Conley Edwards, Archivist  
Library of Virginia  
800 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219-8000

Dear Mr. Edwards:

Howard W. Harner, Jr. suggested that I write to you for your help in amplifying some research on the Virginia copper halfpence dated 1773. In 1956 I wrote "Coinage for Colonial Virginia" which was published by the American Numismatic Society and supplemented later by me and by others with newly found data. Howard Harner has, with your help, I believe, located some further supplementary data which I would like to publish. He sent some of it to me and he did not retain a copy. Unfortunately, I have misplaced one small section of those microfilm prints and hope you can find them and resend excerpts of them to me.

I need a line or two in the Treasurer's records showing the receipt of the 5 tons of Virginia copper halfpence dated about Feb. 1774 giving the total value in Virginia money of account of over £ 1.012. Then there is also a record of January 15, 1777 transferring 12 kegs from the magazine to the Treasurer with the value stated.

Howard writes me from memory that 2 kegs were shipped to the Marlboro Works owned by Isaac Zane, west of Winchester, Virginia on Cedar Creek; 1 keg to Stephen & Noble in Martinsburg (now West Virginia) and 1 keg to Deputy Quartermaster, Southern district (federal) in Williamsburg. Then Howard indicates there are some payouts of further halfpence in 1777 up through April 1778 when it stopped. He refers to microfilm 644 or 645 as the source.

We will gladly pay for any expense for the service we are requesting and will send your library any past or future writings of ours on the subject which you do not already have. I believe the information we are seeking has never been known and is very exciting as Jefferson in writing about Virginia halfpence seems to have been unaware of many of the facts involved. It also shows that some of the coinage was melted for the purpose of using it for military and supply purposes.

My email address is ERICNUMIS@ AOL.COM

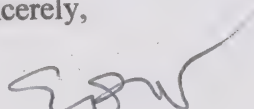
My telephone is 314-727-0850

My fax is 314-727-0820

If there are any questions you have I can try to answer them.

I will be very appreciative of your cooperation and hope it will disclose additional reasons for the modest circulation of the Virginia coinage.

Sincerely,





ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

---

Mr. Howard R. Harner, Jr.  
Reg. No. 279980016  
P.O. Box 1000  
Morgantown, WV 26507-1000

March 22, 2006

Dear Howard:

As a result of your wonderful memory of historical records as to Virginia halfpence I have written to Conley Edwards requesting the information I have mislaid and the (new to me) information outlined in your letter to me of February 22, 2006.

I have no recollection of receiving from you previously the data about the 1777 further transfer of the 4 kegs of coins included in the 12 kegs already delivered from the magazine to the Treasurer of Virginia. I am also unaware of any further disbursement of coin by the Treasurer of Virginia apparently for ordinary business purposes. I hope the archivist can locate all of these records or have someone else find them. I told him I would pay expenses for the service. I hope he will cooperate as these are very important matters historically. Does he know about your predicament?

As to writing up these matters (assuming they can be found again or remembered by you) I have not disclosed your name to others or when or where the records were found, other than saying that the exact amount first received in Virginia was clarified and that some coins were apparently melted. I said the discoverer (I meant you) should be given proper credit and that I would join others as a co-author. I have not heard further on that and think my contacts have too much pride and do not want co-authors. I am not going to share the data with them without having a participation in what is written as a co-author.

Therefore I am considering a change of my position on the matter. I feel that I may wish to co-author an article only with you and then both of us can present the significance of your data by ourselves. I hope you like the idea.

As to the Virginia paper money findings you sent me in prior years I expect to use them in the spring or summer to revise the text of The Early Paper Money Of America for its fifth edition. I have all of that intact and it is very complex. I may need your interpretation of what I have. You of course will be credited as a contributor to that book along with many others who have helped me.

I am overloaded with my museum construction planning and with my usual pending inquiries on other numismatic subjects. Being an antique, I am not as rapid as I was in finding answers.

If you have any more details from memory as to the Virginia coinage data or dates than were included in your last letter to me let me know. If you have any further thoughts or suggestions they would be welcome.

I hope you are getting along reasonably well.





April 4, 2006

Dear Eric

Many thanks for your letter of March 22, and I will respond to your concerns as best I can from here.

How about a publication on VA's currency and recent info on the 1/2 penny? as co-author? I like that idea, as it will allow me to give more info on the winners of the notes, etc, that I have partially compiled at home.

You must ask Conley Edwards to obtain microfilm of the Treasurer's Records. He sent me a pamphlet of 6 or 7 pages (<sup>reference</sup> in house) on the Treasurer's records. Ask him for a <sup>XEROX</sup> copy, also the following microfilm reels identified as: Misc (Miscellaneous) reel 642, Misc reel 644 & Misc reel 645.

Also, he copied for me from this pamphlet:  
Treasurer's Record TR-0 and  
" " TR-63

Both of these the library has a negative copy of, but their ACC number I don't have.

Conley can help you in this. Both can be put on the same reel with ease. TR-63 was most helpful.

Conley has also sent me on microfilm, records of the VA Auditors Office, included starting in the summer of 1978 to 1983. They provide an additional look at VA's finances.

Conley can be reached direct by phone at 8 1-(703)-692-3554 but time is 9 AM to 4:15 pm. Conley is aware of my situation and is still connected (over) as a friend.



The 121 bags of VA  $\frac{1}{2}$  P issued in 1777  
I believe was covered on TR-63 as the last film  
Also check TR-1 Journal of Receipts Jan 15, 77  $\rightarrow$  Apr 3, 79  
on Misc sub #642. sub E  
Treasurer's Office Cashbook, Jan 15, 77  $\rightarrow$  Nov 14, 78 and  
Misc sub #645 as TR-15.

These records will indicate that beginning  
Jan 15, 77, These 121 full bags of  $\frac{1}{2}$  P were  
put in circulation to satisfy the debt VA had with  
various customers. These coins were still available  
to April 1778.

That's about all I can recollect from  
here Eric, All my data is at 32 Woodland DR  
which I am looking forward to returning as soon  
as possible.

Hope this finds you well and prosperous,  
watch those contractors closely,



Sincerely,  
H. W. Hanner Jr  
Howard



Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63105  
Ericnumis @ AOL.com

4/12/06

Mr. Conley Edwards  
Virginia State Library & Archives  
11th St. at Capitol Square  
Richmond VA 23219-3491

Dear Mr. Edwards:

It was most pleasant talking to you about the Virginia halfpence coinage matters. Thank you for your interest in the matter.

The enclosed copies of the last two Harner letters to us give you the source of the detail I am seeking. Any help you can give me will be appreciated.

If you care to send anything on interlibrary loan I can arrange it through Washington University in St Louis (four blocks away from my residence. That is where the new money museum is being installed by our organization.

Harner may have misstated your telephone number but seems to have a phenomenal memory.

My best.

Eric P. Newman.



Subj: **Microfilmed Records at Library of Virginia**  
Date: 04/14/2006 2:37:09 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [CEdwards@lva.lib.va.us](mailto:CEdwards@lva.lib.va.us)  
To: [ericnumis@aol.com](mailto:ericnumis@aol.com)  
CC: [TPolk@lva.lib.va.us](mailto:TPolk@lva.lib.va.us)

Dear Mr. Newman,

I enjoyed our telephone conversation and again apologize for talking so long to reply to your letter.

Our interlibrary loan collection does include copies of the reels you mentioned and they are available to you through the interlibrary loan system of your local library. Film is loaned for a period of four weeks and may be renewed for an additional four weeks if needed. We do not charge for the loan of the film, but your local library may charge a small fee for postage and insurance. Request Miscellaneous Reels 642, 643, 644, and 645, Virginia Treasurer's Office, Receipts, Disbursements, and Cash Books, 1771-1795. I suspect that H.W. Harner examined these for the details on the copper coinage.

I'll search the original records for the 1774 and 1777 entries. I seem to remember that I found a couple of entries in the original volumes and then suggested an examination of the film to Harner.

I'm only in the office on Monday and Friday next week, so I'll try to do this as soon as I can. If your library has any questions about loan of the microfilm, please have them contact our ILL supervisor, Ted Polk, at 804-692-3531.

Conley

\*\*\*\*\*

Conley L. Edwards  
State Archivist  
*Library of Virginia*  
*600 East Broad Street*  
*Richmond, VA 23219*  
Telephone: 804-692-3554  
Fax: 804-692-3603  
E-mail: [cedwards@lva.lib.va.us](mailto:cedwards@lva.lib.va.us)

\*\*\*\*\*





To: Mr. Newman

From:

Date: 4/21/06

This is the guide that Mr. Harner mentioned in one of his letters. Most of the early volumes will be on the miscellaneous reels that are available through interlibrary loan.

I will check several of the dates mentioned and see if I can locate the references to the halfpennies -

Conley

804 692 3554  
Edwards

3900 3599  
3892 Pub. Relations

804 692 3777 Reference



Subj: **Re: (no subject)**  
Date: 05/04/2006 3:43:46 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: Yorkst

Dear Gregg:

What a Good Samaritan you must be in going to the extensive amount of trouble to cheer Howard. Please wish him well for me.

Please tell him that I have contacted Conley Edwards and he has written to me as well as telephoned me. Through interlibrary loan we have obtained the requested microfilm from him through Washington University in St. Louis. I am sending a friend to do the microfilm reading and making prints of the appropriate material at the University since I do not have such access at present. As soon as I receive the data I am looking for I will try to write a draft and mail it to him for improvement and suggestions for further discovery. Once that is accomplished I think that the authorities might be able to consider his work as proof of the good things he can do.

I hear that the City of Morgantown is a lovely area and a young lady I know here has selected the University of West Virginia there for her college.

I am gratified that Howard still has his home and his papers to return to.

I suggest that you make a copy of this message to give to him if that is permitted.  
Eric



Subj: **Re: (no subject)**  
Date: 05/04/2006 10:09:24 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: Yorkst  
To: EricNumis

Dear Eric:

Many thanks for your detailed message. I'll take it with me to Morgantown when I drive up there on Saturday. I will give Howard your best wishes!

Gregg



Subj: **Virginia halfpence request reprised**  
Date: 05/23/2006 3:30:21 P.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [thomas\\_serfass@yahoo.com](mailto:thomas_serfass@yahoo.com)  
To: [cedwards@lva.lib.va.us](mailto:cedwards@lva.lib.va.us)  
CC: [ericnumis@aol.com](mailto:ericnumis@aol.com), [TPolk@va.lib.va.us](mailto:TPolk@va.lib.va.us)

Dear Mr. Edwards:

I am writing both to thank you for your helpfulness and possibly to prevail on your kindness once again. I work for Eric P Newman and I was able to work on the microfilm you recommended. We were able to find several requisitions of halfpence, both full casks and partial casks for 1777. We realize you are busy and would gladly do the detail work of finding specific entries in the Treasurer's receipt books or disbursement books for the years 1773-1776 if those records are available on microfilm that you may be willing to lend us. In looking through some of Mr. Harner's previous research, I noted that he referenced miscellaneous reel 986 for the 1775/1776 period of Treasurer's receipt book records. I don't know if that would be a helpful detail in locating other relevant microfilm or not. We would very much like to borrow Misc. reel 986 and any other microfilm which covers the Treasurer's activities from 1773-1776 as far as receipts, disbursements, cash books, memos etc. if that is at all possible. We appreciate your cooperation and will be grateful for any additional help. I will submit a formal request for the one microfilm reel (with a vague plea for others) through the Washington University Library's inter-library loan office. I can be reached at 314-935-5734, or 314 853-2553. You should feel free to call or email Eric Newman as well. Thanks again for your attention to this matter. Thomas Serfass, Curator, Newman Money Museum

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How low will we go? Check out Yahoo! Messenger's low [PC-to-Phone call rates](#).



Subj: **1773 Virginia Copper Halfpence**  
Date: 8/26/2006 8:58:46 PM Central Standard Time  
From: EricNumis  
To: ~~cedwards@lva.us~~ CEDWARDS@LVA.LIB.VA.US

Dear Mr. Edwards:

Since talking to you recently I have reviewed my data on the Virginia Halfpence and think I found all of the data which Howard Harner located except for two items which are most important. The two are described below and I wonder if you would be kind enough to have your reference department try to locate them. Perhaps I did not get the correct microfilm on interlibrary loans.

The first is the original book entry of their arrival which more or less says that Acct with John Norton & Son Merchants London for copper halfpence L 1213 , some shillings and some pence . The coins arrived on Feb. 14, 1774 and the Virginia Gazetter announced the arrival on Feb. 24, 1774. They weighed five long tons. They should have been entered on the books as soon as checked and stored after arrival.

The second item I cannot find is the Treasurer's receipt for the withdrawal of 12 casks or kegs of copper halfpence from the magazine and the entry of their value as L 336. The date I believe Harner told me was about January 15, 1777 when they began to be sent out by the Treasury and used for munitions, war expenditures, etc. They had not been permitted to be used until November 16, 1774 and by then the turmoil about the conflict with England was imminent and the shortage of copper was a problem. I need the exact language and would be grateful if that could be found. I want to complete a further write up of this subject. I will be glad to give further information if I can.

I hope I am not a burden with this request.

Thank you for any help you can give me.

Eric P. Newman 6450 Cecil Ave. St. Louis MO 63105  
Tel 314 727 0850



Tuesday, September 12, 2006 America Online: EricNumis

Subj: **Howard Harner**  
 Date: 9/11/2006 5:50:01 PM Central Standard Time  
 From: Yorkst  
 To: [EricNumis](#)

Hi Eric:

I've continued to stay in contact with Howard Harner and even visited him back in May. He asked me this week to ask you if you'd accept his phone call. He mentioned some research issues that might be of interest to you. I told him I would contact you and pass along your reply. He's going to call me Wednesday evening...so it would be convenient to hear from you before then.

Phone calls from him are brief...five minutes max due to regulations. He also informed me that he will probably be released next April, some three months in advance of his sentence.

All the best,  
 Gregg Clemmer

Dear Greg:  
 I am glad to hear from you about Howard and his earlier release.. I will naturally be glad to talk to Howard at any mutually convenient time. I am out of my home on this Friday from 12 noon Eastern time for about three hours. Otherwise I have no plans to be elsewhere during any day this or next week.  
 My telephone number is 314 727 0850 as you may know.  
 Please tell him I have had a request in to Mr. Conley Edward at the Virginia State Library for about 10 days asking his reference desk to look up two entries on the Virginia halfpence coinage, one being receiving 5 tons of coins from Norton and the other of the Treasurer receiving 12 kegs or casks of coins from the magazine. Howard had sent them to me and I have somehow misplaced them. I have included his name twice in the 5th edition of my book on The Early Paper Money of America which is supposed to be published somewhere around year end. I am still editing it.  
 You are a good Samaritan and please suggest anything you think it might be practical for me to do.  
 Sincerely yours,  
 Eric

Subj: **Re: Howard Harner**  
 Date: 9/12/2006 1:50:23 PM Central Standard Time  
 From: [EricNumis](#)  
 To: Yorkst

Tuesday, September 12, 2006 America Online: EricNumis



Subj: **Re: Howard Harner**  
Date: 9/14/2006 7:41:38 PM Central Standard Time  
From: Yorkst  
To: EricNumis

In a message dated 9/12/2006 2:50:23 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, EricNumis writes:

Dear Greg:

I am glad to hear from you about Howard and his earlier release.. I will naturally be glad to talk to Howard at any mutually convenient time. I am out of my home on this Friday from 12 noon Eastern time for about three hours. Otherwise I have no plans to be elsewhere during any day this or next week.

My telephone number is 314 727 0850 as you may know.

Please tell him I have had a request in to Mr. Conley Edward at the Virginia State Library for about 10 days asking his reference desk to look up two entries on the Virginia halfpence coinage, one being receiving 5 tons of coins from Norton and the other of the Treasurer receiving 12 kegs or casks of coins from the magazine. Howard had sent them to me and I have somehow misplaced them. I have included his name twice in the 5th edition of my book on The Early Paper Money of America which is supposed to be published somewhere around year end. I am still editing it.

You are a good Samaritan and please suggest anything you think it might be practical for me to do.

Sincerely yours, Eric

Eric:

Just a short update. I've not heard from Howard although he wanted to call me on Wednesday evening. This is not unusual, so I'll sit tight and when the phone does ring....I'll pass on your message. He's really trying to turn things around. And as you probably already know, he's a true "diamond in the rough." Brilliant but eccentric. Loyal yet introverted. An incisive mind with one of the few photographic memories I've ever encountered.

Gregg

Gregg



MCI  
Feb 26, 07

Dear Eric

It's been some time since I've written,  
very little if anything has changed since my  
last. I will be returning home, March 20th  
this year, and am looking forward to the real  
world again. As soon as I am settled in  
at 32 Woodland Dr. in Staunton, VA. I will  
call you and restore communications.

Sincerely,  
H. W. Garner



4-24-2007

Dear Eric

I enjoyed your call this evening and before I receive your delayed letter, I'm sending you the following items for your perusal.

The half-penny acct enclosed, is my last serce of the account however, I can request Microfilm and misc 645 if I need another copy.

The biography of Scot by Pete Smith lists him as going to Phila in 1782. Since his engraved plating was used to the 1779 issue and I can find no additional pay to him for currency engraving after the 1778 issue, and the date changed for 1778 Oct, and May 1779, the next issues being typeset, I believe that May 78 issue was his last currency engraving for VA. However, the May 1781 issue, in part, has engraved borders produced by Wm Waddill. The engraved border issues were \$50; \$100; \$200; \$500; \$1000; \$1200; \$1500; & \$2000. The remaining issues were typeset borders.

The first printing arrangement of the note sheets had the \$50 denom included, as it has engraved borders. The remainder \$10, 15, 25, 30, 35, 40, 70 & 75 dollar denoms are typeset ~~and were of the 2nd printing arrangement.~~ I enclose the Auditors Office account of his payment, Waddills, for his work.

As Jefferson requested Scot to make Indian mads in May 1781, he must have been in VA at least till then, but may have left shortly afterward, so, Waddill was still in VA. and produced part of the May 1781 issue,



3-24-81 → 11-14-1781

AUDITOR'S ACCOUNTS VIII

Hauntown June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1781

112

124. ~~Khakha~~ Dr. <sup>to</sup> Expedition

Warrant to Hugh Knov for sundry  
Furnitures for the Charlotte Militia ordered  
on Duty to join Genl. Green's Army - - - 19.15 ✓

124. United States Dr.

Warrant to Hugh Knov for Furnigge of  
Sundry Articles of Continental Troops  
going to join General Green's Army - - - 7.10 ✓

Hauntown June 9<sup>th</sup> 1781 Friday

124. South Expedition

Warrant to Thomas Vaughan for hire of his waggon &  
Team employed with the Militia ordered to join  
General Green's Army - - - \$1636.10 ✓

Do to William Mitchell for ditto. to ditto - - - 3,630. - ✓

Contingent Account

125. 7-7-1781 Warrant to William Waddell for completing sundry  
engraved borders for the making money of Cert. - - - \$6000. ✓

part of [May 1781 Issue]

125. United States

Warrant to Caleb Johnston for provisions & attendance  
two free soldiers of Colo. Washington's Regiment of  
Dragoons - - - \$637 ✓

125. Do to Philip Moser for items furnished  
General Green's Army - - - 720. ✓

125. Militia

Warrant to William Mitchell for hire of his waggon &  
Team employed with the Militia ordered to join  
General Green's Army - - - 3,630. - ✓



2  
The following items are taken from:  
Treasurer's Office, Cashbooks; Receipts & Disbursements;  
Jan 15, 1777 → Nov 11, 1778. on film, M645.  
all full kegs, casks, of £28 each.

1 cask coppers to Stephen & Noble, (Gun Mfg's) 3-12-77

2 Casks coppers to Isaac Lane (<sup>marble Works</sup> Iron & Steel Mfg's) 5-27-77  
His facility was located west of Winchester, VA on Cedar Creek.  
1 Cask coppers to Josiah Clapham (Gun Mfg's) 6-27-77

1 Cask coppers to Col. Wm Finnis; 10-22-77  
Col Finnis was an ~~Assistant~~ Deputy Assistant Deputy Quartermaster,  
Southern Dept, (Continental) located in Williamsburg.

Appointment of Robert Scot as the Engraver  
for Virginia.

I checked the following sources:  
"Henings statutes at large" VA. vols 94/10: 1775-1781 <sup>not found</sup>  
"Journals of the Council of the State of VA" Volume 2,  
Oct 6, 1777 → Nov 30, 1781 <sup>not found</sup>. <sup>1/2</sup> does not have  
complete coverage.  
"Calendar of VA State Papers" many vols. not encountered.  
It's quite possible that Gov. Patrick Henry had  
the authority to do so. He <sup>Scot</sup> did achieve that status  
as the enclosed acct indicates, It may not have been  
official and <sup>maybe</sup> time limited.  
Perhaps checking the letters of Gov Henry might be revealing.  
which I don't have.

(OVER)



I'm also enclosing three accounts of Scot for  
producing the printed date version of May 1778 as  
I copied them some time ago. Hoping the enclosed  
will be useful and looking forward to the next  
letter.

Good health to you  
Most Sincerely,  
H. W. Hanner Jr



my film: Treasurer's Office, Receipt Book, (TR-28), Oct 2, 1777 → April 4, 1778

Received three pounds of for my  
Lodging in the Army &c. Henry Allen  
131

Received twelve pounds of for my of myself  
William in the Artillery &c. &c.  
132  
Philip Moody

Received two hundred and fifteen pounds of for  
my pay & rations in the Army, Henry L.C.  
133

Edw. Travis,  
Received for the use of the Artillery fifty seven  
pounds for his pay as Chaplain & the Artillery &c. &c.  
134  
W. Apple

April 1, 1778

Received nineteen pounds of for my expenses in travelling  
from Fredricksburg to Williamsburg &c. concerning the making new Money Plates  
placed. Encl. This is for his making new  
135 of plates for the printed date of May 1778 issue. R<sup>t</sup> & C<sup>t</sup>  
~~and probably the most important document~~



## Cash Account. 69 24

July 13	By Amount brought over	27640	16	1
14	By William Finnie	150		
14	By General Nelson	2500		
110	By Duncan Rose	5000		
15	By James Hubard	41	9	
159	By John Jones	24	12	
148	By Morlich Westwood	102	16	
138	By Philip Reidy	50		
149	By John Appleton	5		
16	By Anthony Godwin	9	12	6
150	By James Triplett	23	4	8
150	By Benjamin Steward	11	2	
150	By Charles Ashton	3	9	
148	By William Rean	24		
148	By Andrew Carlowan	42	18	
124	By Peter	10		
116	By Mary Burwell	132		
148	By Robert Marshall	166	10	
148	By William Hurvitz Estate	199	13	3
93	By Lawrence Smith J.	3000		
148	By William Mitchell	450	14	
148	By Presley Thornton	90		
18	By George Webb	50		
116	By Amor Blair	106		
159	By James Maxwell	150		
148	By Thomas Edger	17	6	
148	By John Hay Jr.	1	7	
149	By Duncan Rose	152	57	
148	By John Holcombe	500		
143	By Theo. Bland	258		
20	By Mont. Delaporte	49		
155	By Robert Scott	75		
21	By Benjamin Baker	30		
143	By William Finnie	300		
159	By John Shelton	6	3	
146	By Thos. M. Randolph	18	4	6
133	By Sundry Persons of Thos. Gashens	62		

partial pay for plating  
the printed date  
version of May 1778  
issue.



12 December 1778 Received three hundred and seventy five pounds for 3/4 Years Salary due to me as Judge of Gen Court  
£375

12 Received sixty five pounds 10s for my Attendance  
as a Delegate from Monongahalia Co. Accd.  
£65. 10s

12 Received for the use of Wm. Shinker one hundred  
and fifty pounds for his Damages sustained in the Destruction  
of Norfolk Bridge  
£150

12 Received for the use of Wm. Stark Esq. one hundred  
and fifty five pounds for his Negatives allowed by the Assembly  
in June 1775 & Schedule Order. Also seventy two pounds 6s  
for my Attendance & as a Delegate from Sussex Co. Accd.  
£155

12 DEC 12, 78 Received one hundred and ninety four pounds 10s for  
balance of my Accd. for engraving Money Plates & Accd.  
£194. 10s

12 Received for the use of sundry Prisons one hundred  
and ninety five pounds for Houses impreford for the Kentucky  
Militia Resolutions filed & Also one hundred and eighteen  
Pounds 12/6 for my attendance & as a Delegate from Kentucky  
Co. Accd.  
£195

12 Received for the use of John Humbley six pounds for  
Cart 7 of Powder in Han. C.C.  
£6

14 December 1778 Received for the use of James Nival Esq. one pound  
10s for Lodging & Diet of Guards over J. Goodrich Sen. C.C. Also twelve  
pounds paid an Expise from Albemarle to Wm. being a Volunteer C.C. Also  
seventy two pounds for one Year's Interest (due 27 Nov last on a Loan  
Office Certificate N. 175 on May Establishment)  
£110



D<sup>r</sup> Arch<sup>r</sup> Blair

1777	April 9	To Cash	37 10
	July 7	To Pitts	37 10
	Oct 18	To Pitts	38 15
	Nov 9	To Pitts	50
	April 17	To Pitts	50
	June 15	To Pitts	28 50
	Sept. 1	To Pitts	75
	Dec. 3	To Pitts	75

D<sup>r</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> William Blair

1777	July 1	To Cash	50
	Nov 15	To Pitts	25
	May 18	To Pitts	25

1778 D<sup>r</sup> Robert Scott

1778	July 20	To Cash	75
	Dec. 12	To Pitts	194 19

accounts  
XEROX  
enclosed.

D<sup>r</sup> John Boush

1778	Oct. 2	To Cash	84 76
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Clerk of the Council C<sup>d</sup>

1777	Octo ber 9	By your Salary for 9 Mo 3 days at 15s	173 15
	June 1	By Pitts 7 Mo 2 1/2	200 128 10

Ordinary Publick Seal C<sup>d</sup>

1777	April 30	By 1 Year Salary due this day	50
1778	April 30	By 1 Pitts	50

I checked Hemmings Statutes of VA and  
not found appointment.  
checked journals of the Council of VA  
and not found appointment.

("Engraver") C<sup>d</sup>

1778	Dec. 12	By Your Account	269 19
------	---------	-----------------	--------

Possibly Patrick Henry had the authority  
to appoint Scot. Inspecteur, he  
had that statue in 1778.

Clerk of the Navy



Tel 540 886 6651

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

May 9, 2007.

Mr. Howard Harnar, Jr  
32 Woodland Dr  
Staunton VA 24401

Dear Howard:

I believe we have developed together almost enough material to write an article together on the new findings on the Virginia Halfpence history. We should be coauthors of that is satisfactory to you. I have a number of projects to finish ahead of it so it will take a while for my part.

The data still to be determined is whether the coins were wrapped, if so whether in paper or cloth or otherwise and how the casks were closed. The contents were unharmed by normal denting and scratching and ordinary accompanying coins which were accumulated, packed and shipped long distances. They were rolled up and down planks for shipping and for ballast and carted from York River to Williamsburg while in the casks.

How the kegs were filled is under research. Perhaps the staves were laid in a cradle horizontal with the circular top and bottom being vertical and set in the lower grooves. Then the top staves were placed on after the keg was filled and the hoops hammered on. I do not see how the kegs can be loaded from the top and still lock the hoops around it with the contents piled in from the top.

I believe they will not counted by tale but only by weight. Information has been requested from the Royal Mint historian.

Assuming the £1013 18s 6d is face value and does not include any shipping expense the number of coins is 486,684. The number of coins per keg of £28 at face value is 13,440 coins, weighing about 224 lbs per keg. This makes about 36 kegs. If the total shipment weighed 5 tons (long tons) or 11,000 lbs the weight of the coins only would be 8,064 lbs and the kegs would weigh 2936 or about 82 lbs per keg. Please check these figures.

I am returning you detail of the £1013 18s 6d as it is your only copy you indicated. I look forward to your detail on the 12 keg transfer from the Magazine to the Treasurer. I have the record of the total of 5 kegs distributed during the Revolution. I think this is an amazing new group of facts and want to think about it further.

Please let me know any further thoughts you may have whenever convenient.  
My best to you

Eric

P.S. In the book John Norton & Son on page 288 is the letter dated 11/30/1772 "that the copper should be coined in Virginia currency and not in Sterling half pence at the rate of sixty to the pound. A word upon and that instead of £2,500 Sterling value we should make an arrangement with £1,000"



Subj: **FW: FW: Virginia Halfpence casks**  
Date: 5/30/2007 12:38:33 PM Central Daylight Time  
From: JPettengell@CWF.org  
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Mr. Numis,

I will answer your questions in the order asked.

1. All staves are in contact apart from the last two to three inches, the lower hoops are already in place therefore it is an easy task to put the top head in and drive the chime hoop on.
2. The depth and width of the croze (slot) would relate to the thickness of the staves and heads e.g. one inch substance would require a croze of approximately  $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{4}$  inch.
3. As question 1. it is an easy task to drive the last hoop onto a cask.
4. I do not know methods used for packing specie however from my own limited experiences filling casks, I would proceed as follows... Have the coin rolled tightly in cloth and packed as close as possible; any space left would be filled with additional cloth.
5. Nails were packed loose, quite simply the nails were poured in and the cask headed up.
6. Hoops were occasionally nailed if the shipper requested it; however it was not a standard practice.
7. The hoops were on tight enough that casks could be rolled even over uneven terrain without any loosening occurring, I should add that if the person filling and closing the cask, (not necessarily a time served cooper) did not drive the hoops on correctly loosening could occur; to safeguard against this there were always coopers employed at the docks, they were also required members of a ships company; therefore If such a situation arose it could be dealt with immediately.
8. Great care was taken in stowing casks tightly in the holds of ships. The fear was not that the hoops would loosen but the far greater danger of a cask shifting whilst at sea causing the cargo overall to loosen and move e.g. the typical gross weight of a tobacco hogshead out of Va in the 18<sup>th</sup> century was fourteen [14] hundred pounds.
9. You presume correctly I have not had cause to research the methods used for packing specie.

Mr. Numis thank you for your enquiries; I hope the information above is of some help to you.

Yours faithfully,  
Jim Pettengell.



P. S. I have attached a letter (below) I received from Mr. John Caramia; John is the Executive Director of Old Salem and a dear friend of mine; one of his specialties is 18<sup>th</sup> century money both specie and currency.

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**From:** Pettengell, Jim  
**Sent:** Monday, May 28, 2007 8:07 AM  
**To:** 'John Caramia'  
**Subject:** RE: Virginia Halfpence casks

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**From:** John Caramia [mailto:JCaramia@oldsalem.org]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 27, 2007 3:21 PM  
**To:** Pettengell, Jim  
**Subject:** RE: Virginia Halfpence casks

Dear Jim, I reviewed all the materials I have and did not find any references to exactly how specie was shipped. I always assumed it was in a strong box of some kind. If you ever find any references I would love to see them. I am getting ready to go to Santa Fe on



June 18, 2007

Dear Eric

Enclosed are items which I hope you will find useful. 2 items will validate the half-penny use in 1777 and into 1778, to at least May. More will follow as I check 17642 further.

I doubt the weight of 5 tons of halfpence, just a newspaper account, and not validated by any record from the Treasurer's Office found. I must close; for now,

Sincerely,  
H. W. Harniss



An Acco<sup>o</sup> of Cash received of sundry  
Persons since the 19<sup>th</sup> of October last 1776

per  
p. 140

Brought from Page 138

(1776) 174368. 7. 11

Taken from old Book

10 -	Oct. 29	✓	The Clerk of Lancaster Tax on Writts	7. 1 1/2
9 -		✓	The Rev <sup>d</sup> Bland, & Bal of a Slave purch <sup>d</sup> at Viney	34. 3. 4
- -	Nov. 18	✓	The Inspectors at Police & Col <sup>d</sup> Mason bal. 1774	72. 1. 9
- -	1774	✓	d <sup>o</sup> & d <sup>o</sup> p <sup>r</sup> 1775	67. 18 in
13. ★	Jan <sup>y</sup> . 15	✓	12 Kegs of Copper half pence rec <sup>d</sup> from y <sup>e</sup> Magazine	336. - -
		✓	Sheriff of James City & m <sup>r</sup> Norwell p <sup>r</sup> 1767	20. 8. 5
14 4	April 30	✓	d <sup>o</sup> for Tax on Co <sup>r</sup> ge 1774	42. 15. -
		✓	d <sup>o</sup> for 1775	47. 10. -
		✓	d <sup>o</sup> for 1776	89. 6. -
17 8	May. 3	✓	J. H. Norton Esq <sup>r</sup> Sec <sup>y</sup> Officer York Lig <sup>t</sup> Duties	426. 8. 8
		✓	d <sup>o</sup> for Light House Duties	31. 6. 5
				175. 536. 12. 7 1/2

(OVER)



Treasurer's Office, Disbursement Journal, TR-0, listed in guide  
to the treasurers records as E-24, first item. Microfilm,  
Library of VA. My copy.



P. 119R

(OVER)

Acco<sup>o</sup> of Cash received of sundry  
1776 Persons, since the 19<sup>th</sup> of October last.

Brought from Page 118 25660. 6. 11

Oct 1776 Issue { Mr. Wray 5998 Slips of 50 Dol<sup>rs</sup> ea 299900. -- ✓  
d<sup>o</sup> 5999 d<sup>o</sup> of 28 ea 50391 12. -- ✓  
Mr. Pasteur 3950 d<sup>o</sup> of 20/ 3950. -- ✓  
d<sup>o</sup> 4096 Cards 10/ ea 2048. -- ✓  
d<sup>o</sup> 12596 d<sup>o</sup> 3/ ea 1889. 8. -- ✓

May 1776 Issue { Mr. Davis 600. of former notes 6/ ea 180. -- ✓  
Small notes { Mr. Pasteur 931. d<sup>o</sup> 6/ ea 279. 6. -- ✓

174368. 7. 11

taken from Old Book.

Octo. 29 Clk of Lancaster tax on W<sup>ts</sup> 7. 12 ✓  
Rev<sup>o</sup> W<sup>ts</sup> land for bal. of a }  
Slave purch<sup>d</sup> at the } 34. 3. 4 ✓  
Vineyard }  
Nov. 18. Inspectors at Public by Col<sup>o</sup> } 12. 1. 9 ✓  
Mason. Bal. 1774 }  
1777 d<sup>o</sup> by d<sup>o</sup> 1775 67 18. ✓

Jan<sup>y</sup> 15 Rec<sup>d</sup> from the Magazine  
12 kegs of Copper half pence } 336. -- ✓  
at 28. each }  
Sheriff of Ja<sup>y</sup> City. p<sup>r</sup> 1767. 20. 8. 5 ✓  
# m<sup>o</sup> novell }

April 30 d<sup>o</sup> for Tax on Cargo 1774. 42. 15. -- ✓  
d<sup>o</sup> for d<sup>o</sup> 1775. 47. 10. -- ✓  
d<sup>o</sup> for d<sup>o</sup> 1776. 89. 6. -- ✓

May 3 d<sup>o</sup> of J. H<sup>y</sup> Norton Esq<sup>r</sup>  
New Off<sup>r</sup> York Lig<sup>t</sup> Duties 26. 8. 8 ✓  
d<sup>o</sup> for Light House d<sup>o</sup> 31. 6. 5 ✓  
175. 536. 12. 7 1/2

By Bal of Acco<sup>o</sup> Settled  
by Comm<sup>o</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. 4455. 7. 8 1/2  
179,992. -- 4

Errors accepted 4<sup>th</sup> June 1777

Ro. C. Nicholas late Treas<sup>r</sup>



Microfilm, Library of VA, Treasurer's Office, "Settlement of Accounts"  
identified as TR-63. 1775 → ~~for~~ 1777. My film



Subj: **Short ton vs. long ton**  
Date: 6/27/2007 11:04:19 A.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [JHallman@CWF.org](mailto:JHallman@CWF.org)  
To: [EricNumis@aol.com](mailto:EricNumis@aol.com)  
CC: [JPettengell@CWF.org](mailto:JPettengell@CWF.org)

Eric,

Jim passed on the e-mail you sent regarding the actual weight of the ton in relation to the 5 tons of halfpence shipped in 1774. Unfortunately, the question does not have a neatly defined answer. It may be that it is neither 2000 nor 2200 pounds. A ton, in weight, is technically defined in the 18<sup>th</sup> century as 20 hundredweight. A hundredweight is not, however, always the same thing. For some commodities it is 112 lbs. yielding a ton of 2240 lbs. For others, it is 104, or 108, or 120 lbs. And, in some rare cases, a hundredweight is actually 100 lbs. yielding a ton of 2000 lbs. The question becomes, how many pounds are in a hundredweight of copper? Unfortunately, I don't know the answer to that one.

Another question that arose for me as I thought about it was whether, in the case of copper coinage, the weight in question would have been calculated in avoirdupois, or in Troy, as I know that Troy weight was (and still is) the standard for precious metals, and thus would be used when weighing a coin to check its value. I don't know if that applied to copper coins in the eighteenth century or not.

I realize that this doesn't provide you with a clear answer to your question, but I hope this information may at least provide some hints as you track down the answer.

Jonathan

*Jonathan A. Hallman  
Journeyman Cooper  
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation  
(757) 565-8462*



Some additional items found in relation to VA's half penny.

On Feb 11, 1782 Gov Benjamin Harrison writes to Col Davies. of VA's War Office stating: "there are some Coppers in the Treasury which may be made use of to pay for bringing the Cartouch Boxes from Maryland."

These boxes were made by Edward Simpson of Baltimore, one or two thousand, I recollect, and he Simpson was paid in VA Tobacco as late as 1783.

VA did receive the boxes but the transport & when was not found. not adequately pursued.

"The firm of Isaacs & Cohen"

VA Treasurers Records indicate payment to the firm of Isaacs & Cohen in 1781, the earliest I found. Did Isaac Isaacs move from Williamsburg to Richmond following the Gov't of VA in April 1780, or, was he already in Richmond? Not known but a question not pursued yet.

Previous accounts to Isaac Isaacs. 1778, etc.

FROM:  
"Journals  
of the  
Council  
of the State  
of VA"  
volumes  
3, 4, & 5.

A Warrant to Cohen & Isaacs for £30 for rent of Court Office ending 6-9-84. Dated 6-17-1784

A Warrant to Mr. Isaacs for 30£ rent to Dec 9th 1783 (same office) Dated May 24, 1784

These payments, for rent, continue to 1789.

Several Entries are interesting, Thus:

Warrant on the Contingent fund <sup>to Cohen & Isaacs</sup> for £11, 10s out of any money in the Treasury. dated 5-21-1788

Warrant on Contingent fund to Cohen & Isaacs as settled by the Auditor for the sum due out of any money in the Treasury. Amount not stated. Dated 11-3-1788  
(OVER)



Was the VA Treasury hard pressed for funds in 1788? apparently so. I don't have a handy reference to verify.

The following are possible sources for additional information which I have not pursued but, the Md Historical Society holdings for Mendes Cohen might be revealing. They are:

Cohen Family Collection of Public & Private Papers (Richmond & Baltimore 1779-1887) from: "American Jewish Historical Society" Waltham, Mass.

Mendes Cohen Collection, Balt, Md 1812-1894. from: Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Md.

Eric

I must apologize for the lateness of the enclosed. After returning home, I found a lot of things that required & still require attention so that accounts for the time delay.

I hope the enclosed will make a contribution. Continued good health to you and yours.

Sincerely,  
H. W. Hanner Jr



Dear Mr. [redacted]

Our recent [redacted]  
thank you for contacting [redacted]  
your original residence [redacted]  
physical health improves [redacted]

I want to give you my calculation  
estimate of the number of Virginia 1774  
Feb 14, 1774 by the Ship Virginia at York River  
mentioned in the Virginia Gazette was approximately

2200 pounds weight each and more gross weight including  
the containers. From the entries you found in the Treasury  
records one cask or keg held £ 28 of value of halfpence or  
13,440 halfpence at 60 halfpence per pound weight or 224 lbs  
weight per cask. The weight of the cask must be estimated.  
Approximations are: Cask 50 lbs is 40 casks; Cask 80 lbs is 36 casks;  
Cask 100 lbs is 34 casks; Cask 120 lbs is 32 casks. Since we do not  
know the size of a keg we could try to figure the volume required to  
fit in 13,440 pieces. We know the individual size of each halfpence  
but not the air space resulting from putting them in loose. The  
casks had to be rolled up and down planks and raised or lowered  
by rope or pulley by two men usually. If my calculations and  
assumptions are close or correct — great but otherwise comment.

The casks would have at least 6 iron bands and these would be  
knocked off for opening by separating the staves. Then they could be  
reused. The spigot or bung of a wine barrel would not be useful  
for coined copper.

Moving the casks from York River to the Magazine would have  
been done by the Militia I presume or some guard force since there  
is no transport record located.

Keep up your enthusiasm for research in the historical  
field and derive enjoyment from it. Thank you again for  
all your past help in my writings. You will be mentioned  
and thanked again whenever my 5th edition of Early Paper  
Money of America is completed. It is now in the revision  
process with the publisher.

Sincerely

Eric

incomplete, undated (c. 2007)  
Eric P Newman to Howard Harner



June 1, 2009

Mr. Howard Harner  
32 Woodland Drive  
Staunton, VA 24400

Dear Howard:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation I am enclosing a copy of the 1875 Sylvester Crosby page describing the 1749 shipment of silver and copper coins for reimbursement of the Massachusetts Bay Colony for military and other expenses. This was sent by the English because the New England colonies were in dire financial condition. I ran across this reference by virtue of working on another matter and realized that it would help our Virginia coinage research on number of coins, casks, weight etc of the 1773 issue.

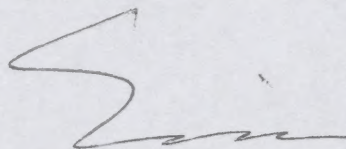
You will note that the Spanish silver coinage was only in chests and the coins in the chests (206 chests full) were all in sacks. It is not clear how the balance of the silver was contained, but since there were 3,000 ounces in most of them they would be shipped similarly.

The copper coinage is apparently shipped in casks. Fortunately the cost of the casks is given. Since the silver was weighed in equal amounts & the container sacks would be used for weighing and adjusting the weight by adding or withdrawing what you could not do with coins in a cask, because the cask has to be closed. The weight of the copper nails for the 1749 halfpence and farthings is used - not the number of each.

The British regulation for copper coinage was 46 halfpence to the pound avoirdupois and 92 farthings to the pound avoirdupois. Now you know the ton is the long ton of 2240 pounds and the hundred weight was 110 pounds.

I believe all this will enable you to calculate the number of coins in a cask and the weight of cask. They used up all the copper for the coins and the coins were of normal weight or there would be complaints.

In due course let me have your conclusions. It is a real break through I believe. My best to you



1000 E. 10 Ave St. Louis, MO 63105



From material salvaged from Mrs. Harold H. Bailey's estate,  
Laura Beatty's second husband.

Mr. J. Eugene Law.

*Harold Farmer* Looking Back In

50 Years Ago Today—January, 1915

NEWS SYNOPSIS: John Eugene Law, wealthy Los Angeles banker, and Miss Laura M. Beatty were married in the Euclid Heights Presbyterian Church. Law is vice president of the National Bank of Hollywood. The bride was assistant cashier at the bank. It is said she is the only woman bank employe of that position in California. . . . Young girls of the Manual Arts High School do not

Miss Laura M. Beatty, daughter of the late ex-Judge Charles Beatty, of North East, this county, was married to John Eugene Law, in Euclid Heights Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles, California, on January 20. The groom is vice-president of the National Bank of Hollywood, and the bride was assistant cashier. Several years ago, Miss Beatty accepted a position as stenographer in the bank, and at that time Mr. Law was president of the institution. Later he resigned and had Miss Beatty appointed assistant cashier. The groom is a student of birds and possesses a rare collection of eggs, skins and scientific treatises on birds. He is reported to be quite wealthy. 1915

Bankers Consolidate.

Miss Laura M. Beatty, who until a week ago was the assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Hollywood, and believed to be the only woman in California holding such a position, was married yesterday morning, to John Eugene Law, former president of the same bank. The ceremony was performed in the Euclid Heights Presbyterian Church, following which the couple left in an automobile for San Diego, planning to return soon to occupy a home at No. 1834 El Cerito avenue, Hollywood. Kansas Admission Banquet.

The Kansas State School is making

BURIAL OF  
J. E. LAW TO  
BE TODAY

Pioneer Hollywood Banker  
Devoted Last Years of  
Life to Ornithology

Funeral services for J. Eugene Law, pioneer of Hollywood and formerly president of the First National Bank of Hollywood and the Hollywood Savings Bank, who died at the Monte Sano Hospital Saturday after a prolonged illness, will be conducted at 3 p.m. today at the Turner & Stevens mortuary, 95 North Marengo avenue, Pasadena.

Mr. Law was born in Forest City, Iowa, August 26, 1879. After graduating from Leland Stanford University as a lawyer he joined his father, John Law, in the management of the newly organized banks. At his father's death shortly thereafter he assumed the presidency of these institutions, which position he held until several years later he disposed of his banking interests to devote all his efforts toward the scientific study of western bird life. A chair in ornithology was created for him at the University of California in Berkeley, which professorship he held until ill health made it necessary for him to retire to his home in Altadena. He remained prominent in Hollywood financial circles, however, having been associated with Toberman & Co. as director and vice-president up to the time of his death.

Mr. Law leaves his mother, Mrs. Katherine E. Law of Los Angeles; his widow, Mrs. Laura Beatty Law, and two sisters, Mrs. Ida Law Joice and Mrs. Lillian Law Walker of Pasadena.

Emic.

Three three cent pieces were part of a collection Mrs. Laura Beatty Bailey accumulated while in California. There were many 2¢, 3¢, Bust halves, many almost UNC, and other denoms. I selected these 3¢ based on the date character, but later noticed the open "D" common to all 4. They might be counterfeit accordingly. I await judgment. I acquired them in 1973 or 74. She died in Sept 1975. The 2 coppers I've owned for 25 years or more. What do you think? H. W. H. Jr.